



南山小学校 School Newsletter

October Edition

October 2, 2017
Minato City, Nanzan ES
Principal Terumi Aketagawa



The Spirit of Never Giving Up



Principal Terumi Aketagawa

The season has become comfortable and refreshing under the autumn sun. Beneath the blue sky, we start to see students enjoying "shadow tag" out in the schoolyard. The signs of autumn can be felt throughout the Nanzan Forest, and the students are enjoying the discovery of fall.

On September 6, students from four elementary schools in the Minato district gathered at Honmura ES to participate in the Minato City Elementary School Swim Meet. The participants were 64 students from Honmura ES, 67 from Kogai ES, 59 from Higashimachi ES, and 16 from Nanzan ES. The swim meet encourages students to improve their swimming ability as well as cultivate wholesome sportsmanship, and it also deepens interaction and friendship between schools. With these goals in mind, the grade 6 students from the participating schools carry out the swim meet every year.

The events at the swim meet were the boys 50m and girls 50m freestyle and breaststroke, the 25m freestyle, and the boys 200m and girls 200m relay. The Nanzan ES felt a lot of pressure from the difference in student numbers surrounding the pool, but the performance of each and every student was wonderful to watch.

First, all of the Nanzan students were able to swim the entirety of the 50m event. Every Nanzan ES participant entered the 50m event, even the ones who could not swim 50m without putting their feet down, they kept their eyes on the goal, and no matter how many times they put their feet down they never gave up. I felt fraught with emotion as I watched them struggle to make every effort at moving forward.



On the day of the swim meet, there were numerous students who achieved new personal records by exhausting every ounce of their strength. These included students who could not swim 50m without putting their feet down during swimming instruction at school, but they endured the entirety of the 50m for the first time at the swim meet. Or another student, whose 50m time originally 2 minutes prior to the swim meet, but they managed a new time of 1 minute and 16 seconds on the day of.

Most exciting of all had to be the 200m relay, often called the "star" of all competitive swimming events. The relay swimmers for Nanzan ES were 4 boys chosen from 9, and 4 girls chosen from 7, which made it a very tough event. It seemed a nearly insurmountable challenge, as the other schools singled out students attending swimming schools as their entrants. Both the boys' and girls' relays ended in solo performances by the Nanzan ES anchors as they finished their swims amidst roars of support and encouragement after the other schools had already reached the 200m goal. The Nanzan ES swimmers cut a gallant figure as they poured all their strength into finishing the race, never giving up, and igniting a huge round of applause from every student in attendance.

Once again I felt as though the grade 6 students are the pride of Nanzan ES, as they exemplified the school's goal of "thinking things through and never giving up." Their unflinching tenacity in pursuit of this goal makes them good role models for any student in every grade at all times.

On October 17, Nanzan ES will participate in the planned Intercity Sports Event. 18 schools from Minato City will compete at the Yumenoshima Stadium. Events include the 100m sprint, 50m hurdles, running high jump, running long jump, softball throw, and the 4x100m relay. From the latter part of September, the faculty has been instructing the 16 grade 6 students in the various events, utilizing time after school. More than winning or losing, the competition is about aiming for personal records, and experiencing a sense of enrichment and accomplishment. I look forward to seeing the kinds of efforts these 16 grade 6 students will put forth on so large a stage. Each and every one of them has a leading part. I hope to see them give their best and never give up. Grade 1 through 5; please give them your full support!

October Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Tokyo Citizens' Day	2 Morning assembly Open school School explanatory meeting Committee School counselor Tatewari greeting 9	3 Open school Japanese manners (G1) Tatewari greeting 10	4 Open school Dental care guidance (G1, 3) School route inspection School Counselor Tatewari greeting 11	5 Evacuation drill Lunch interaction (G2, 6) Tatewari greeting 12	6 Job experience (G6) Parent-child lunch party (G1-1)	7
8	9 Health and Sports Day	10 Music assembly Social studies field trip (G5) Dental check-up (G1, 2, 6) Parent-child lunch meeting (G1-2)	11 Dental check-up (G3, 4, 5) Japanese manners (G4) Research lesson	12 Field trip (G1, 2) Lunch interaction (G4, 5) School counselor	13	14
15	16 Intercity sports event send-off assembly Measurements (G4, 5, 6) School counselor	17 Intercity sports event (G6) Measurements (G1, 2, 3)	18 Lunch interaction (G1-2, 3) School counselor	19 Planetarium (G4)	20 JRC initiation ceremony Community cleaning	21 Tea ceremony (G4) Kindergarten Sports Day
← School Foundation Anniversary Week →						
22 School Foundation Day	23 Morning assembly School counselor	24 Intercity sports event reserve day (G6)	25	26 Lunch interaction (G1-1, 1-2)	27 Board of school trustees meeting	28
29	30 Morning assembly School counselor	31 Tatewari assembly				

October Goal

"Use With Care"

- Check how you cleaned up
- Put things neatly for the next person to use it

Applying for the Special Support Room or Academic Supporters

From April in 2016, in order to address the developmental needs of all students, a special support room was established in our school that offers classes to students in need of additional support. At our school it is called the Step Room. Special support rooms are established to give instruction for overcoming difficulties and improving oneself both in studies and in life.

Also, as with before, in order to help students overcome their struggles, academic supporters are available upon request to supplement students' studies on an individual basis while remaining with their regular class. For those families wishing to enroll their children in the special support room, or those desiring an academic supporter in the classroom from April 2018, please contact either the home room teacher, the Special Support Coordinator (Ms. Sakai), or the Vice Principal by November 17 (Fri).

Grade 4 Social Studies Field Trip (Tuesday, September 12th)

Vice Principal



We visited the National Police Agency, the Tokyo Water Science Museum, and the Shibaura Water Reclamation Center on our social studies field trip.

At the National Police Agency, we enjoyed learning about the everyday jobs of police officers along with *Pipo-kun* (police mascot). Also, we observed the command center in charge of when we called "110". We were able to observe how the operators handle an actual report while we were there. Through the observation on this field trip, many students developed respect and admiration for the work that police officers do.

The next stop on our field trip was the water and sewer services center. We learned that our everyday lives are supported by the powerful pumps of the water and sewer services that draw and push water around the city.

We learned that many different people and things are involved in our ordinary everyday lives.

As representatives of Nanzan ES, G4 demonstrated a praiseworthy attitude towards their studies.



About the Safety Class

Head of Life Guidance

This year, we invited a lecturer from the Tokyo City Family e-Rules Secretariat to conduct a safety class for students and families at school. In order to safely use the internet, cellphones, and smartphones etc., they explained simply the characteristics of the internet and cell phones, as well as the necessary rules and manners.

The students could understand good and bad with their minds, but when emotions get involved it is possible to mistakenly make a bad judgment, and also no matter how convenient a device may be, if the people using it are not careful, we may harm other people or even be harmed ourselves.

The other day, you discussed at home about your "Household SNS Rules" and submitted them to the school. The families that had a serious discussion with their children were able to record a set of rules particular to their household, which included the appropriate time and place for use, the contents of use, whether or not it is necessary for their child to have a device, and at what age it will be appropriate for them to have their own device.

Instead of wondering "What should we do?" after getting involved in a bad situation when giving these devices to children, we feel it is necessary for the school and the families to work together day after day to guide the children by establishing a set of household rules for responsible use. Your support and understanding is greatly appreciated as we strive to continue raising students that can think on their own and make sound judgments.



Committee Activities

Head of Special Activities

Centered on the upper grade students, committee activities are aimed at everyone cooperating together to create a fun and rich environment here at Nanzan ES. At our school, grades 5 and 6 take the central roles, with representatives from grade 4 participating as well.

On September 19 (Tue) was the committee presentation assembly. It was a chance for the other students to know about the committees and the activities they are engaged in. We hope that the committee members will continue to set a high value on doing their best and striving for improvement.

Representative Committee



Every morning, they set an example for everyone by standing outside the entrance and cheerfully greeting everyone.

Health and Ecology Committee



By doing hygiene checks and monitoring the temperature setting on the air conditioner, this committee puts the environmental hygiene of the school in order.

Broadcast Committee



This committee plans their lunch broadcasts to match up with seasons and events.

Library Committee



This committee takes care of lending books from the library and tries their hand at reading aloud during the lunch broadcast.

Assembly Committee



This committee thinks of and carries out games and quizzes that the whole can enjoy.

Committee Presentation Assembly (Sept. 19)



The committees work hard for the benefit of everyone, and this assembly was an opportunity for all of the students to learn about what they do.